

THE ART SCENE IN EUROPE

Art is booming in Europe, depending on the country, especially Germany, Switzerland, Holland have markets with collectors that are very willing to invest in all art. Popular Art Fairs like Tefaf-Maastricht and the Art-Bazel, pronounce that the old masters like Rembrandt/Vermeer/Rubens etc., are selling very well. However it is not just the old masters, contemporary art is also doing very well, like Andy Warhol/Jean-Michel Basquiat, Damien Hirst and so forth. People are investing in art more than ever. What is used to be called decorative art is slowly and seriously being considered 'art' now, there is a blurring of the lines in the definition of decorative art and 'real' art. What used to be known as 'decorative art' is now perceived to be of much more value, here we refer to materials such as glass, ceramics, furniture, mixed, media even videos are being used in the creation of art.

I happen to have the great fortune to be able to make a living as an artist here in Europe. I was born in Aruba and grew up in Oranjestad (Koningstraat) went to the 'Juliana Protestantse school', until my first year at HBS, then we moved to St.Vincent where I continued my education. My inspiration as a young child came from my parents, who instilled a firm but open education. We were allowed to become anything we wanted and they did everything for our further education. Continuing your art studies in Holland is recommended. I can never forget my teachers in Aruba, who encouraged me to go to Holland heer D.J. Rebel & J. Hordijk

What Aruba can do is invest in the talents at home and the nearby islands, take a new look at the artist there, give them more exhibits, by exposing them more so they also can be discovered, through exhibitions/ arts fairs/ tv programs etc.

As is evident 'glass' is my chosen medium for producing art. I came in contact with glass after seeing 2 glass-blowers 'bowing' in Amsterdam at the Rietveld Academie (where I was teaching at the time). As a fabric designer I wanted to see if I could use some of my designs on glass. And with

glass I could express myself in a more permanent way - with textile your design exists for a short period - glass 'lives' on. It can be followed and remain in existence through Galleries and collectors.

What shall I say about how well regarded my work is in Europe; it is for one collected by important art collectors (here in Holland and in Italy), bought by several museums (Italy and Germany) and sold in the most important Galleries in Europe. I was asked by the editors of this magazine to give an indication of the 'price' my art commands, so I can say that at this time my top price, through Galleries in Italy is estimated to be in the range of Euro 5.000,- to 6.000,-. I participate in about 5 to 7 exhibitions a year. In Italy my objects are sold in Galleries (Galeria Blanchaert - Milan / Galeria Carlo Moretti - Venice) in stores: Corso-como 10 - Milan/ Rossana Orlandi - Milan/ Tallulah Studio - Milan. In Holland at Gallery Braggiotti- Amsterdam/ de Aventura - Epe/ Galerie de Glorie - Oosterbeek & Den Haag.

2008 is a special year for glass art, the 20th anniversary of the 'Glaskunstbeurs Leerdam' is being celebrated. I am an invited artist and have 250 unique pieces created to be put on display at this international event. I'll continue making a living in art here in Europe and someday hope to back on my lovely Aruba. 

**Melvin Anderson was born in Aruba (1944) grew up in Oranjestad (Koningstraat) went to the Juliana Protestantse school, went to HBS, his family moved to St.Vincent, where he furthered his studies. At 19, he went to Holland to study as a fabric designer. After completing his studies he started his own design studio in Milan Italy. He taught at Rietveld Academie in Holland, Design Academy at Eindhoven and the Art Academy of Luzern, Switzerland. As a fabric designer he was very successful and has made designs for fashion giants such as Armani, Versace, and Prada in Milan; in New York for Calvin Klein; Yves Saint Laurent and Guy Laroche in Paris; and Issey Myake in Japan. After doing this successfully for 30 years and as a creative challenge he started 'doing' glass art in the year 2000. He has worked with the masters of glass art in Europe and has made quite a name for himself in his latest art expression.*



Melvin Anderson ontwerpt hebbende, strakke kunstwerken. Die vormen zijn de drager van zijn kunst. Het is niet de vorm die hij gebruikt, maar de manier waarop hij de vorm gebruikt. Het is de manier waarop hij de vorm gebruikt, die zijn kunstwerken zo uniek maakt. Hij gebruikt de vorm om zijn kunst te expressen, en dat is wat zijn kunstwerken zo uniek maakt. Hij gebruikt de vorm om zijn kunst te expressen, en dat is wat zijn kunstwerken zo uniek maakt.



Informatie-aanvraag beursobject 2008.

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